

CITY OF MILPITAS
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMISSION
MILPITAS CITY HALL COMMITTEE MEETING ROOM
UNAPPROVED MINUTES
February 2, 2005

**I.
Call to Order
and Roll Call**

Chair Ranker called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Commissioners Iloreta, Lee, Luna, Mandal, Mohsin
Alternates present were Commissioners Fang, Lind, and Queenan
Absent: Commissioners Abelardo, Cook and Pham

**II.
Seating of
Alternates**

Alternates seated: Fang and Lind

**III.
Pledge of
Allegiance**

Vice-Chair Mohsin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**IV.
Approval of
Agenda**

MOTION to approve the Agenda as submitted.

M/S: Lind, Iloreta

Ayes: 7

**V.
Approval of
Minutes**

MOTION to approve the minutes of January 5, 2005 with the correction on Item IV change Linda to Lind. Page 2b. – Ethics Project Update “Most cities are not community driven”. This statement should read “Most cities Ethics Programs are not community driven”.

M/S: Lind, Mohsin

Ayes: 7

**VI.
Announcements**

Staff announced that Form 700 needed to be filled out and returned to the City Clerk’s office by April 1, 2005. Staff provided copies of the minutes from the City Council December 21, 2004 meeting regarding invocations at Council meetings. Next month the CAC meeting will be fairly long meeting due to the CDBG prioritization and the Ethics final report. The CAC decided to begin the March 2nd CAC meeting at 6:30 pm.

Commissioner Lind announced that the Milpitas Unified School District is putting forth Measure A, parcel tax. The funds generated will go directly to benefit the students of Milpitas Unified School District. It will be directed for class size reduction.

Chair Ranker received a letter addressed to Mayor Esteves regarding the resignation of CAC Commissioner Mandal. He is now a member of the Planning Commission effective immediately.

VII.
Citizens' Forum

Chair Ranker invited members of the audience to address the Commission on any item not on the agenda.

Rob Means – 1421 Yellowstone – He felt that the purpose of the Ethics process was to diminish the amount of negative campaigning going on, to get more involvement from the community in the election, and to have more useful information available to the voters. He feels his experience in the past election was that he did not get more useful information. He feels there might be better alternatives that could produce better results. He distributed a flyer to the Commission regarding more information from the web that could be useful.

VIII.
Liaison Reports

a. City Council

Councilmember Polanski introduced herself to the Commission and gave a brief summary of the most recent City Council items. She stated that 6 items were tabled to the next meeting of February 15th including updating the City Council handbook. The open government ordinance was delayed to the next meeting. Councilmember Polanski stated that also appointed to the Planning Commission were Cliff Williams and Norm Acevedo. There was discussion on a parking garage across the street from the Library with a banquet facility on top. The Council felt that looking at a banquet facility on top was not in the best interest of the City but could move forward at looking at a parking garage and retail at the bottom. There was discussion on budget adjustments. City Clerk, Gail Blalock, announced her retirement.

IX.
Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation to former CAC Chair, Arsenio Iloreta.

Chair Ranker presented former Chair Iloreta with a certificate of appreciation for his outstanding job as chair during the past year. Commissioner Iloreta thanked the Commission for their hard work and contributions.

X.
New Business

a. Naming of City Library.

Staff stated that on October 5, 2004, the City Council directed all Commissions consider the Council Facilities Naming Subcommittee's recommendations to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Cesar Chavez by naming the library after one of them and make recommendations to the City Council on the name of the library.

Commissioner Mohsin asked if the CAC is to name the library after one of them. Councilmember Polanski stated that the subcommittee is recommending naming the library after Dr. Martin Luther King and honoring Cesar Chavez in another way. The Council did an actual resolution but it is basically getting input and recommendation from this Commission.

Commissioner Lind feels naming the library after Martin Luther King or Cesar Chavez is ridiculous and should not be named after anyone. She feels it should be named the Milpitas Library. There is a Martin Luther King library in downtown San Jose.

Councilmember Polanski also stated that there was a recommendation to name rooms within the new library after different individuals who have made a contribution to the City.

Commissioner Iloreta asked is the direction from the City Council. Councilmember Polanski stated there was going to be public hearing and she pulled it from the November meeting because she felt it wasn't appropriate to have the public hearing on election night. She wanted to get as much input from the community as possible as well as from the different Commissions and get recommendations from all the Commissions on what they would like to see the library named.

MOTION to name the new library The Milpitas Library and that community rooms be named in honor of our founding Milpitas families.

M/S: Lind, Luna

Ayes: 7

b. Ethics Project Update.

Staff stated there were 3 aspects that had been taken to the Council back in December that were tabled for 30 days and were finally heard on January 18th. Setting a date for the final training for the Council members, the draft lobbyist registry ordinance, and the draft of the final survey. All the motions on these three items failed. There will be no training. Dr Shanks' final report will just incorporate feedback that he has received from the post election assessment meeting and other informal communication rather than the survey instrument. Council extended the deadline for the final survey and expiration for Dr. Shank's contract two weeks to February 15, 2005.

c. Non-denominational invocations at City Council meetings.

Staff stated that the City Council at their December 21, 2004 meeting considered having non-denominational invocations at City Council meetings. Council directed CAC add this item to their short-term work plan and investigate the potential of having short non-denominational prayer prior to the start of the Council meetings and provide feedback from the community and look at the policies of other cities and report back to Council. Staff contacted other cities in the county and neighboring Fremont and reported that the cities of Gilroy, Morgan Hill, San Jose, and Santa Clara do have invocations. The cities of Campbell, Cupertino, Fremont, Mountain View, Palo Alto, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Saratoga and Sunnyvale do not have invocations. The city of Gilroy invites pastors to give invocations and must conform to the requirements of the city. Morgan Hill has a silent invocation by the Mayor at the beginning of their City Council meeting. In the city of San Jose, each Councilmember is responsible for invocations for a month. San Jose has no policy on the content of the invocation.

Chair Ranker asked if there should be a subcommittee and the time span on this item. Staff stated the intention is not to have a lengthy survey and to have a quick turn around. Commissioner Lind stated there should not be an invocation and Chair Ranker agreed. He feels there is a lot of work involved and some risks in involved as well and he thinks it is not necessary to fix a problem that does not exist. Commissioner Queenan also agrees.

Commissioner Lee suggested following Morgan Hill by having a silent invocation. Commissioner Lind stated it is still an issue it is an invocation. Commissioner Iloreta asked if it could be revised. Commissioner Lee stated that it would be a minute of silence. Commissioner Lind disagreed. Staff stated that if the Commission reported back to the Council that they did not support this issue, Council would not be satisfied. Staff suggested having a one question survey and send it to the other Commissions and see what feedback they get back and report back to the CAC in a month or two.

MOTION to have staff get feedback from the other Commissions and report back to the CAC.

M/S: Mohsin, Ranker

Ayes: 6

Noes: 1 (Lind)

d. Subcommittee/Task Force Status Reports.

Neighborhood Preservation (Lee, Mohsin, Queenan, and Luna)

The subcommittee did a survey in the Manor area on January 16th on several issues. They also received feedback from BFI on street sweeping. They were generally concerned about vehicle speeding, tree trimming and City maintenance.

50th Year Anniversary (Mohsin, Mandal and Lind)

No report was made. The CAC decided to eliminate this subcommittee. Commissioner Mohsin thanked Councilmember Polanski for all her hard on this item.

Ethics (Abelardo, Lind, and Ranker)

Report was given with project update earlier on agenda.

Tree Decorating Celebration (Pham, Cook and Abelardo)

No report was made.

XI.

Adjournment

Chair Ranker adjourned the meeting at 8:44 p.m. to the March 2, 2005 meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne Andrade, Recording Secretary